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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tatsuo KOBAYASHI et al.

Serial No. 10/582,866

Filed June 14, 2006



Attorney Docket No. 2006_0858A

Confirmation No. 5940

Group Art Unit 3765

Examiner Shaun R. Hurley

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METHOD FOR PRODUCING PITCH-BASED CARBON FIBER SLIVER AND SPUN YARN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(i)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO/SB/08 is enclosed.

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified
 - a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08, reference is made to:
- [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
 - [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. [X] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. [X] Comments:

The US '652 reference cited on the attached SB/08 form corresponds to the JP '823 reference which is cited and discussed (as patent document 4) on pages 3-5 of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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